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Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 03791 301824 Z

66
ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 EB-11 ARA-11 AF-10 AGR-20

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIEP-02

IO-12 OIC-04 SS-14 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 RSR-01

/152 W
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R 301817 Z MAR 73
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0162

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E. O. 11652: N/ A
TAGS: EGEN
SUBJECT: COFFEE: FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF CONTACT GROUP' S WORK

REF: LONDON 3627

1. DISCUSSION ON ADMINISTRATIVE- FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF WORK OF CONTACT GROUP OCCUPIED MOST OF AFTERNOON OF MARCH 24 TH. DISCUSSION WAS OSTENSIBLY PROCEDURAL. COLOMBIA LED OFF BY SUGGESTING THAT WOULD BE ADVISABLE FOR CONTACT GROUP ADOPT SET OF PRINCIPLES THAT WOULD GUIDE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IN HIS ADMINISTRATIVE- FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES OVER THE PERIOD OF TIME BETWEEN NOW AND OCTOBER 1 ST. COLOMBIA DELEGATE STATED THAT IF THIS WAS ADOPTED AS PROCEDURE HE WOULD BE PREPARED SUBMIT CERTAIN SUGGESTIONS AS TO THE PRINCIPLES THAT SHOULD GUIDE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DURING THAT PERIOD.

2. VERY FEW OF SUBSEQUENT INTERVENTIONS SPOKE TO QUESTION OF PROCEDURE. OAMCAF EXPRESSED OPPOSITION TO IDEA OF FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON THIS ISSUE UNTIL AFTER APRIL COUNCIL MEETING. GERMANY SUGGESTED THAT EXECU- TIVE DIRECTOR PREPARE TWO BUDGETS; ONE FOR PURPOSES OF
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LIQUIDATING ORGANIZATION, ANOTHER FOR ITS CONTINUED OPERATION AS FORUM FOR RENEGOTIATION AND COFFEE STATISTICAL ORGANIZATION. BRAZIL MADE OBLIQUE REFERENCE TO NUMEROUS PROBLEMS THAT WOULD CONFRONT ORGANIZATION AND SUGGESTED THAT SO MANY POSSIBILITIES EXISTED WOULD BE FUTILE PURSUE SUBJECT MUCH FURTHER AT THIS STAGE. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SPOKE OF HIS CONCERNS AS OPERATING HEAD OF ICO AND HIS FEAR THAT ADEQUATE RESOURCES MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE TO MEET EXPENSES OF ORGANIZATION. US ATTEMPTED FOCUS ATTENTION ON PROBLEMS OF NEXT SIX MONTHS, SUGGESTING THAT WOULD BE SOUND IDEA FOR ED TO SEE WHAT COULD BE DONE DURING THAT PERIOD TO MINIMIZE LIQUIDATION EXPENSES.

3. WHEN THIS PHASE OF MEETING TERMINATED, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SAID HE WAS WELL SATISFIED WITH (SOMEWHAT CONTRADICTORY) ADVICE HE HAD RECEIVED. SUBSEQUENTLY HE ASKED FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTATIONS WITH MEMBERS OF FINANCE COMMITTEE AND US CONSULTATION SCHEDULED FOR PM, APRIL 2 ND.

4. COMMENT - THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IS ALMOST OBSESSIVELY CONCERNED OVER POSSIBILITY THAT ON OCTOBER 1 ST HE WILL BE LEFT WITH A NUMBER OF DEBTS AND OBLIGATIONS TO BE MET (WHICH WOULD CERTAINLY BE TRUE IF ORGANIZATION NEEDED TO BE LIQUIDATED) AND THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF MEMBERS WOULD REFUSE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THESE LIQUIDATION EXPENSES (WHICH IS POSSIBLE BUT MUCH MORE CONJECTURAL). HIS SOLUTION FOR THIS PROBLEM IS THE PASSAGE OF A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET WHICH WOULD PROVIDE HIM IN ADVANCE WITH ADEQUATE FUNDS TO MEET ANY CONTINGENCY. WE HAVE SOUGHT DISCOURAGE HIM FROM PURSUING THIS IDEA, BUT WILL REPORT MORE FULLY ON HIS PRESENT INTENTIONS AFTER MONDAY CONSULTATIONS.

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